

The Sun

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1886.

The Congress Elections.

The united Democracy can elect the eight Congressmen in this city, and they should not fail to do so. These eight members may be needed to give their party a majority in the next House. The Republicans have asserted that they will secure the majority. They have not informed the country where they expect to make the gains to accomplish this, and their boasting grows feeble as the elections draw near. But this should not throw the Democrats off their guard.

The House contains 325 members, and the Democrats now have a majority of 48. To overcome this the Republicans must, this year gain 22 members. When asked where they come to get the 22 they reply in vague generalities. But inasmuch as it has been an almost invariable rule that the party that carries a majority of the House in the middle of a Presidential term elects the next President, the Republicans will now, no doubt, put forth desperate exertions to save the House. Democrats need not be reminded that when the Republicans are aroused and united they are a hard party to beat.

Viewed in this light, the Democrats will see the importance of electing every one of the eight city members, while the like motives will impel them to hold fast to the nine districts outside of the city which they secured two years ago. It also behooves the Democracy of Connecticut and New Jersey to cling to the five districts they carried in that campaign.

Why Should the President be Ashamed?

There is a good deal of gossip about the reported retirement of Miss ROSE ELIZABETH CLEVELAND from the literary enterprise in Chicago in which she has borne a prominent part during the past three or four months. Miss CLEVELAND seems to have grounds of complaint against the publisher of *Literary Life*, a publishing gentleman who has certainly been worth advertising purposes, and sometimes in a way repugnant to the instincts of a refined and modest woman. This, however, is not the reason why Miss CLEVELAND has withdrawn from the Chicago magazine. It is persistently asserted that the public appearance of Miss CLEVELAND as an editor and a writer of periodical literature has been and is displeasing to her brother, the President of the United States; and that his influence has been steadily exerted to induce her to retire from her chosen field of independent effort.

The plain English of this story, we suppose, is that the President is ashamed of his sister's present occupation. She is a woman of positive independence, and her literary declarations of opinion are uncompromising. Her style is forcible. What she says commands attention and stimulates controversy. She stands boldly forth in the free form of thought, claiming no other rights than belong to her individually as a citizen of the republic of letters, and asking no favors from press or people. Under the circumstances, it is not surprising that Miss CLEVELAND's name should be frequently seen in print, or that her writings should be widely copied and discussed, whether they excite admiration or provoke argument. This is not entirely in any bad sense of the term. It is reputation—the sort of reputation that is the aim and crown of literary endeavor. Whatever fame has come to Miss ROSE ELIZABETH CLEVELAND as an essayist, novelist, and poet has been won by her fairly and creditably in the open field. The recognition of her merit has been general. If in any instance she has been treated without the respect due to every good and thoughtful woman working with a noble aim, we are not aware of the fact.

We should be prone to believe that in all this President CLEVELAND finds any reason to be ashamed of his sister. His mental habits are very different from hers. Many of the questions, historical, critical, psychological, moral, which interest her deeply, and the constant consideration of which makes so large a part of her intellectual life, are foreign to his experience or tastes. It is perhaps not too much to say that in certain phases hers is the finer and more active mind. But the President is the man of all others whom we should expect to appreciate at their full worth the qualities of independence, self-reliance, sincerity, and unassuming democratic straightforwardness that have distinguished Miss CLEVELAND's course since she left the White House to win her own way in the world.

He ought to be proud of her. He owes her not only admiration, but gratitude also. Who is there that does not feel the more kindly toward the President because he is the brother of this interesting, energetic, and accomplished American woman?

Spain's New Agreement.

President CLEVELAND's proclamation imposing discriminatory duties on Spanish vessels coming to our ports from Cuba and Porto Rico became operative on Oct. 25. It has been in force just three days, and now it is revoked by a second proclamation, issued in pursuance of a new agreement with the Madrid Government, whereby American shipowners are promised equivalent privileges in the Spanish West Indies. It remains to be seen whether this fresh promise will be promptly carried out, or whether this, like the compact made more than two years ago, will be evaded by the customs authorities in Spain's American colonies.

We fear that our merchants and shippers may find it hard to reconcile the grounds assigned for the President's change of front in his latest proclamation, with the memorandum of agreement which is simultaneously published. The President is made to say that he revokes his proclamation of Oct. 12, and relieves Spanish vessels from discriminatory duties, because he has satisfactory proof that no such imposts are now levied in Cuba or Porto Rico on vessels belonging to citizens of the United States. No such proof is afforded by the agreement with the Madrid Government which bears the same date.

The Spanish Minister does not state the abolition of imposts as a fact, but merely as a promise. Who can guarantee that this stipulation will be worth any more than was the covenant entered into upward of two years ago, but which has never been executed to this day? And is it not true that discriminatory duties were levied on American vessels in the Spanish West Indies on Oct. 27, the very day on which the President asserted the contrary to be the fact?

It may also perplex American shipowners to learn that "the discrimination duties imposed on Spanish vessels on the 25th, 26th, and 27th of this month by reason of the proclamation of Oct. 12 will probably be refunded." Why so? Give back to Spanish shippers duties which they have been asked to pay for three days only, but which ought to have been levied on them for years?

than two years past, or ever since the violation by Spain of the agreement of 1884 became notorious? Ought not such refunding to be reciprocal? Should not the Spanish Government be called upon to return to our shipowners every dollar wrong from them in Cuba and Porto Rico during the last two years in contempt of a compact which we on our part had loyally executed up to Oct. 25 of the present year?

We remarked some time ago that Mr. BAYARD would deserve the gratitude of our shipping interest if he could hit upon some mode of getting back the money unjustly taken from our merchants by discriminatory duties, which we on our part had abolished. The Spanish Minister has shown us exactly how this may be done, if it be true that he has asked for the refunding of the imposts levied on Spanish vessels arriving from Cuba and Porto Rico on Oct. 25 and the two succeeding days. The refunding process should be carried out all round.

Forestry at Denver.

The American Forestry Congress is a body of public-spirited and earnest citizens who meet together once a year for the purpose of discussing the forests of the United States, and devising methods for their preservation and extension. This year the meeting was held in Denver, in the State of Colorado, and to judge by the very brief account of the proceedings which has just reached us, it must have been an exceedingly interesting and profitable one.

The Congress is composed of the most prominent foresters of the United States, and is presided over by the Hon. WARREN HUBBARD of this city, President of the Congress, promised, for example, in his opening address that the Convention would have "scientific assurance" that the preservation of the scattered bodies of timber, which hang about the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains, would make the great plains the happy home of a population of millions of agricultural people.

The fate of countless generations and vast national wealth hangs, then, upon the preservation of these costly forests. It is hard, therefore, that the meagreness of the published report of this inspiring address should deprive the country of the chance of knowing just how the preservation of forests which have always existed to increase the precipitation of moisture on the central portion of the continent, ameliorate its climate, or add to the volume of water which flows out through the headwaters of the Mississippi and the central plateau of North America is a desert, long before any iron ore had been made upon the Rocky Mountain forests. All the oratorical eloquence, therefore, of the Forestry Congress must be required to make it anything but a desert beyond the immediate influence of existing streams.

Interesting and hopeful information was given, too, in regard to western Kansas by Mr. TILTON of that State. Western Kansas has for many years been regarded, except by persons with land to sell there, as one of the worst places in the world to live in. Crops have failed year after year, and there every winter kills by the thousands from starvation and exposure, emigrants induced to settle in that region by the false and misleading statements of the agents of railroad and land companies, have either perished from want or been driven to seek more favorable fields for agricultural enterprise. We learn at last, however, from Mr. TILTON what the trouble really is with that unfortunate part of the country. There is, it seems, "an amount of rainfall perfectly adequate for southern crops, but the rainfall is not distributed evenly, and the result is that the soil is parched and the crops are killed by the drought. It is not pleasant to think that this important and interesting fact might never have been known if the American Forestry Congress had not been organized to enlighten and instruct us.

The Congress did not adjourn, of course, without passing a series of imposing resolutions looking primarily to the protection of the forests, and remotely to honorable and lucrative employment for its members at the expense of the national and the different State treasuries. The forester, however, must live, and the most patriotic and public-spirited citizen ever cannot be expected to go on talking forever without some substantial benefit in return.

Something is wisely left for the next session of this Congress. At least, we fail to discover in its resolutions any demand for the removal of the import duty upon foreign lumber, although the collection of this duty acts as a direct bounty for the destruction of our most valuable forests. The necessity of restricting the lumber trade, and the millions of acres of valuable land have been plundered from the people of the United States without any adequate return whatever, is not referred to. Methods for the protection and care of the nation's forests, now long preyed upon by unscrupulous individuals and rapacious corporations, are not developed or insisted on. But those, after all, are merely practical details, quite unworthy of the attention of such an august and imposing body as the American Forestry Congress.

Bartholdi's Statue Poet.

It has been very bad. The best verses embodying the sentiments supposed to be represented by the copper goddess on Bedlow's Island are contributed by the venerable Quaker of Amesbury. The last stanza, in dignity and simplicity, almost rises to the level of the occasion:

"Shine far, shine free, a shining light,
To reason's way and Virtue's aim,
I don't like the statue's dress to suit,
Who whistles his own tune."

But WHITTIER's ode to the Bartholdi statue is not distinguished on the whole by the quality of his most felicitous productions. It is lame and feeble. Mr. STEEDMAN's effort, printed in the *Tribune* on Tuesday, would call for no special remark except for the noteworthy line in which the goddess speaks of:

"My slaves the Irish."

BOYLE O'NEILL, an Irish patriot and a genuine poet, struggles hard to redeem the subject from the commonplace which its more obvious and theatrical aspects suggest to the maker of rhymes. His poem was printed yesterday in the *New York World*. There is music and philosophy in some of the lines; but we confess our inability either to parse or to understand this passage, perhaps misprinted:

"What art thou? Whence? What comest thou to us?"

What vision hath thou interposed
Of revolutions framed in centuries?

Mr. WILL CARLETON piles adjectives and

BLAINE'S TOUR IN PENNSYLVANIA.

Talking to the Movers of the Senator from Maine.

His first speech in the Senate was a masterpiece of eloquence. He has been in the Senate for two years, and his record is a masterpiece of eloquence.

It is refreshing to turn from the forced and artificial sentiment of productions like this to the classic elegance and glowing passion of the poem in which the Hon. NOAH DAVIS, President of the General Term of the Supreme Court for the First Judicial Department of the State of New York, expresses his appreciation of Mr. BARTHOLOMEW's goddess. Few people, comparatively, know Judge Davis as a poet. The distinguished jurist shall have a fair show in this Sun:

"Poet, great sculptor of the gods in sculpture's robes,
Brought forth the image of the Helenean god,
In majesty and grace that with a nod
Ruled conquered Titans and the world with stars and
swirls of air."

Widest over the Olympic games his smile in copious
bleeding play.

"Praxiteles with softer touch in woman's beautiful
modelled from Phrynia's marvellous form,
The Cretan Venus, nude and warm,
Whose wondrous charms such loves of art in Greece
hearts could hold."

Assigned the lot of kings and scorned the potency
of gold.

"And thou, Bartholomew! gentle crowned son of France
and Italy,
Thou, bright worthy of immortal! Now
Comest thou, the patriot sculptor's noble part,
To have 'round a century's love of People's heart
to heart."

But the parade and procession were magnificent, and the statue itself towers high aloft. Yesterday was indeed a great day, notwithstanding the failure of the poets and the badness of the weather.

And now let us all take hold and give
Hewitt a round vote of 110,000!

Encouraging News from Governor Hill.

The Governor of New York, who the good Democrat that he is, went over to Newark last night before last to make a speech in behalf of Mr. GREEN, the Democratic candidate for Governor of New Jersey. "I know of no civil service rule," said Governor HILL, "which would make it necessary for New Jersey to have a civil service rule."

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MRS. STEWART'S FUNERAL.

Based at Garden City, Ohio, to the Grave that had been Prepared for her Husband.

Mrs. Cornelia M. Stewart, widow of the late Alexander T. Stewart, was buried yesterday afternoon in the crypt of the Cathedral of the Incarnation, at Garden City, Long Island, in the vault next to that prepared to receive the remains of her husband. Shortly after 9 o'clock yesterday morning the remains of Mrs. Stewart were placed in the velvet-covered coffin and carried down to the main hall of her late residence. The coffin was placed upon a bank of roses and amaranth. There were other floral offerings sent by friends, and the whole place was odoriferous of flowers and fresh shrubs. Soon after the coffin had been placed in the hall the doors of the house were opened to the employees of Mr. Stewart's successors, and for two hours and more they passed in, looked in, and then passed out.

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SPREADING FOR PROHIBITION.

The Republican Party Called a Fleet-A Third Party Necessary.

It was rather too wet last night for the Prohibitionists, and in consequence their grand ratification meeting at Chickering Hall was but a sorry affair. The Young Men's Prohibition Club, under whose direction the meeting was held, marshaled about twenty strong, with a band of nine pieces, and quietly took front seats. A few women were scattered through the hall, and a corps of police officers were kept busy distributing a variety of appropriate literature, both prose and poetry. The managers waited in an anteroom, with manifold impatience, the tardy gathering of the audience, and half an hour after the appointed time, marched upon the platform and proceeded to business with the hall less than one-third filled.

Mr. John H. Shorey was introduced as the Chairman of the meeting. He said the cause of prohibition compelled itself to every man, woman, and child in the land. He said that the children, he rejoiced in being able to stand up for this cause. He said that the children, he rejoiced in being able to stand up for this cause. He said that the children, he rejoiced in being able to stand up for this cause.

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